

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A combination including a receptacle
connector ~~with latch arms, which~~ that is to be mounted on
a counterpart ~~member~~ member, and ~~to which~~ a plug connector
[[being]] that is connected to an electric wire or a flat
type flexible cable and is to be connected, when connected
to the receptacle connector, wherein the combination has
features as follows with reference to a depth direction, a
width direction and a thickness direction all being
perpendicular to each other ~~are assumed, other,~~

the plug ~~connector is~~ connector, when seen in the
thickness direction, has a shape substantially a rectangle
having respective sides thereof extending in the depth
direction and the width ~~direction as its two sides,~~
direction, the plug connector includes a contact that is
exposed on at least one face thereof in the thickness
direction at [[the]] an inward edge in the depth direction,
and the plug connector includes respectively a plug
~~a moving side~~ width fitting face facing that faces outward
in the width direction ~~and a moving side~~ as well as a plug
depth fitting face facing that faces outward in the depth
direction [[are]] respectively provided at two locations
spaced from each other in the width direction,

the receptacle connector ~~with latch arms~~ comprises

a receptacle connector body having a groove
comprising bounded between two transverse walls spaced
apart and arranged opposite ~~opposing to~~ each other in

27 the thickness direction and a vertical wall present
28 extending between the two transverse walls, wherein
29 the groove ~~opening~~ opens outward in the depth
30 direction and ~~into which~~ is adapted to have the inward
31 edge ~~in the depth direction~~ of the plug connector
32 ~~is to be inserted,~~ inserted therein, and wherein the
33 receptacle connector body ~~being at least partly~~
34 insulating, includes at least an insulating part
35 thereof that is insulating,

36 a conductive contact comprising a contacting part
37 being that is able to undergo elastic deformation in
38 the thickness direction in the groove of the
39 receptacle connector body and that is adapted to
40 contact the contact of the plug connector, and a
41 connecting part adapted to be connected to the
42 counterpart member, the conductive contact being
43 provided in ~~[[an]]~~ the insulating part of the
44 receptacle connector body, and

45 a pair of latch arms extending outward in the
46 depth direction from two locations ~~[[being]]~~ that are
47 spaced from each other in the width direction on the
48 receptacle connector ~~body~~ body, and ~~[[being]]~~ wherein
49 the latch arms are able to undergo elastic deformation
50 in the width direction,

51 and each latch arm is provided with a retaining part
52 projecting inward in the width direction, and ~~[[the]]~~ each
53 said retaining part ~~is provided with~~ respectively includes
54 a guiding part that generates a component force acting

55 outward in the width direction from a pressing force acting
56 on the guiding part ~~from the side opposite to~~ toward the
57 counterpart member in the thickness direction, a ~~fixed-side~~
58 receptacle width fitting face facing inward in the width
59 direction ~~corresponding to the moving side and adapted to~~
60 cooperate with the plug width fitting face of the plug
61 connector, and a ~~fixed-side~~ receptacle depth fitting face
62 facing inward in the depth direction ~~corresponding to the~~
63 ~~moving side and adapted to cooperate with the plug~~ depth
64 fitting face of the plug connector.

- 1 2. (currently amended) The ~~receptacle connector with latch~~
2 ~~arms~~ combination as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~
3 each said retaining part is, when seen in the
4 thickness direction, substantially a rectangle having
5 respective sides thereof extending in the depth direction
6 and the width direction ~~as its two sides, and the retaining~~
7 ~~part is provided with~~ direction,
8 the guiding part comprises a portion of the retaining
9 part on [[its]] a face thereof opposite to the side of the
10 counterpart member, the portion member and tilting inward
11 in the width direction and ~~coming closer to~~ toward the
12 counterpart member, ~~and this portion provides the guiding~~
13 ~~part, or the~~ or a chamfered corner inward in the width
14 direction and inward in the depth direction of the
15 retaining part ~~is, when seen in the thickness direction,~~
16 ~~chamfered to provide the guiding part, and~~ part,

17 the receptacle width fitting face comprises an inward
18 end face in the width direction of the retaining part
19 ~~provides the fixed side width fitting face, part, and~~
20 the receptacle depth fitting face comprises an inward
21 end face in the depth direction of the retaining part
22 ~~provides the fixed side depth fitting face. part.~~

Claim 3 (canceled)

1 4. (currently amended) The ~~receptacle connector with latch~~
2 ~~arms combination~~ as recited in claim 2, wherein
3 the receptacle connector further comprises a metallic
4 cover on a surface of the receptacle connector body on the
5 side opposite to the counterpart ~~member is provided by a~~
6 ~~metallic cover, member, and~~
7 the two latch arms are made of a metal, and ~~[[the]]~~
8 root ends of the respective latch arms are integrally
9 provided on ~~[[both]]~~ respective ends in the width direction
10 of the metallic cover.

Claims 5, 6, 7 (canceled).

1 8. (currently amended) The ~~plug connector to be connected to~~
2 ~~the receptacle connector with latch arms combination~~ as
3 recited in claim 4,
4 the plug connector comprising ~~when a depth direction,~~
5 ~~a width direction and a thickness direction all being~~
6 ~~perpendicular to each other are assumed,~~ an insulating

4598/WFF:hc

- 13 -

7 plate-shaped plug connector body that has the shape
8 substantially a rectangle, being, when seen in the
9 thickness direction, substantially a rectangle having the
10 depth direction and the width direction as its two
11 sides, and

12 the contact having conductivity and being provided on
13 the plug connector body, the contact comprising a
14 contacting part being exposed at the inward edge in the
15 depth direction of the plug connector body at least on one
16 face thereof in the thickness direction thereof and a
17 connecting part ~~[[to be]]~~ connected to the electric wire or
18 the flat type flexible cable, and

19 the ~~moving side plug~~ width fitting face ~~facing outward~~
20 ~~in the width direction~~ and the ~~moving side plug~~ depth
21 fitting face ~~facing outward in the depth direction, the~~
22 ~~both faces~~ being provided on the plug connector body at the
23 two locations spaced from each other in the width direction
24 thereof.

Claims 9, 10, 11 (canceled)

1 12. (currently amended) The ~~plug connector combination~~ as
2 recited in claim 8, wherein the plug connector body has
3 concaved parts concaving in the thickness direction
4 ~~are provided in the at corners of the plug connector body~~
5 at ~~[[both]]~~ respective ends thereof in the width direction
6 and facing outward in the depth direction ~~of the plug~~
7 ~~connector body, and of the walls constituting these~~

8 ~~concaved parts, direction, and the concaved parts are~~
9 ~~bounded respectively by first walls facing outward in the~~
10 ~~width direction provide the moving side and forming the~~
11 ~~plug width fitting faces [[and]] as well as second walls~~
12 ~~facing outward in the depth direction provide the moving~~
13 ~~side and forming the plug depth fitting faces.~~

1 13. (new) The combination as recited in claim 2,

2 the plug connector comprising an insulating
3 plate-shaped plug connector body that has the shape
4 substantially a rectangle,

5 the contact having conductivity and being provided on
6 the plug connector body, the contact comprising a
7 contacting part being exposed at the inward edge in the
8 depth direction of the plug connector body at least on one
9 face thereof in the thickness direction and a connecting
10 part connected to the electric wire or the flat type
11 flexible cable, and

12 the plug width fitting face and the plug depth fitting
13 face being provided on the plug connector body at the two
14 locations spaced from each other in the width direction
15 thereof.

1 14. (new) The combination as recited in claim 13, wherein the
2 plug connector body has concaved parts concaving in the
3 thickness direction at corners of the plug connector body
4 at respective ends thereof in the width direction and
5 facing outward in the depth direction, and the concaved

6 parts are bounded respectively by first walls facing
7 outward in the width direction and forming the plug width
8 fitting faces as well as second walls facing outward in the
9 depth direction and forming the plug depth fitting faces.

1 15. (new) The combination as recited in claim 1, wherein
2 the receptacle connector further comprises a metallic
3 cover on a surface of the receptacle connector body on the
4 side opposite to the counterpart member, and
5 the two latch arms are made of a metal, and root ends
6 of the respective latch arms are integrally provided on
7 respective ends in the width direction of the metallic
8 cover.

1 16. (new) The combination as recited in claim 15,
2 the plug connector comprising an insulating
3 plate-shaped plug connector body that has the shape
4 substantially a rectangle,
5 the contact having conductivity and being provided on
6 the plug connector body, the contact comprising a
7 contacting part being exposed at the inward edge in the
8 depth direction of the plug connector body at least on one
9 face thereof in the thickness direction and a connecting
10 part connected to the electric wire or the flat type
11 flexible cable, and
12 the plug width fitting face and the plug depth fitting
13 face being provided on the plug connector body at the two

14 locations spaced from each other in the width direction
15 thereof.

1 17. (new) The combination as recited in claim 16, wherein the
2 plug connector body has concaved parts concaving in the
3 thickness direction at corners of the plug connector body
4 at respective ends thereof in the width direction and
5 facing outward in the depth direction, and the concaved
6 parts are bounded respectively by first walls facing
7 outward in the width direction and forming the plug width
8 fitting faces as well as second walls facing outward in the
9 depth direction and forming the plug depth fitting faces.

1 18. (new) The combination as recited in claim 1,
2 the plug connector comprising an insulating
3 plate-shaped plug connector body that has the shape
4 substantially a rectangle,

5 the contact having conductivity and being provided on
6 the plug connector body, the contact comprising a
7 contacting part being exposed at the inward edge in the
8 depth direction of the plug connector body at least on one
9 face thereof in the thickness direction and a connecting
10 part connected to the electric wire or the flat type
11 flexible cable, and

12 the plug width fitting face and the plug depth fitting
13 face being provided on the plug connector body at the two
14 locations spaced from each other in the width direction
15 thereof.

1 19. (new) The combination as recited in claim 18, wherein the
2 plug connector body has concaved parts concaving in the
3 thickness direction at corners of the plug connector body
4 at respective ends thereof in the width direction and
5 facing outward in the depth direction, and the concaved
6 parts are bounded respectively by first walls facing
7 outward in the width direction and forming the plug width
8 fitting faces as well as second walls facing outward in the
9 depth direction and forming the plug depth fitting faces.

1 20. (new) An electrical connection arrangement for connecting
2 a flexible conductor to an article, said connection
3 arrangement comprising:

4 a receptacle connector that is adapted to be mounted
5 on the article and that comprises:

6 a receptacle body that comprises an insulating
7 receptacle body part and that bounds an elongated
8 receptacle socket extending longitudinally therealong
9 in a width direction along a socket plane,

10 a conductive receptacle contact secured to said
11 receptacle body and including a first contacting part
12 and a first connecting part, wherein said first
13 contacting part is exposed in said receptacle socket
14 and is elastically flexibly deflectable in a thickness
15 direction perpendicular to said socket plane, and
16 wherein said first connecting part is exposed from

17 said receptacle body and is adapted to be electrically
18 connected to the article,

19 two latch arms that extend from said receptacle
20 body parallel to each other in a depth direction
21 perpendicular to said width direction and said
22 thickness direction, and that are spaced apart from
23 each other in said width direction, and that are
24 elastically flexibly deflectable in said width
25 direction, and

26 a respective retaining part provided on a
27 respective free end of each respective latch arm of
28 said latch arms, wherein each said retaining part
29 respectively comprises a first retaining face that
30 faces toward said receptacle body in said depth
31 direction, a second retaining face that faces toward
32 an opposite one of said retaining parts in said width
33 direction, and a deflection guide part configured to
34 generate a component force acting on said respective
35 retaining part outwardly in said width direction away
36 from said opposite one of said retaining parts when a
37 pressing force is exerted onto said deflection guide
38 part in said thickness direction;

39 and

40 a plug connector that is adapted to be connected to
41 the flexible conductor and that comprises:

42 a plug body that comprises an insulating plug
43 body part and that includes a forward plug end

44 configured and adapted to be inserted into said
45 receptacle socket, and

46 a conductive plug contact secured to said plug
47 body and including a second contacting part and a
48 second connecting part, wherein said second contacting
49 part is exposed at said forward plug end and is
50 adapted to contact said first contacting part in said
51 receptacle socket when said forward plug end is
52 inserted into said receptacle socket, and wherein said
53 second connecting part is configured and adapted to be
54 connected to the flexible conductor;

55 and wherein

56 said plug body includes two pressing portions
57 positioned and adapted to press against and exert said
58 pressing force onto said deflection guide parts of said
59 receptacle connector when said forward plug end has been
60 partly inserted into said receptacle socket at a tilt angle
61 about said width direction relative to said socket plane
62 and said plug connector is pressed toward and into planar
63 alignment with said socket plane so that said plug
64 connector becomes engaged with said receptacle connector,

65 said plug body further includes two first engaging
66 faces that face away from said forward plug end and said
67 receptacle body in said depth direction and that are
68 respectively engaged by said first retaining faces of said
69 receptacle connector when said forward plug end is inserted
70 into said receptacle socket and said plug connector is
71 engaged with said receptacle connector, and

72 said plug body further includes two second engaging
73 faces that face outwardly away from one another in said
74 width direction and that are respectively engaged by said
75 second retaining faces of said receptacle connector when
76 said forward plug end is inserted into said receptacle
77 socket and said plug connector is engaged with said
78 receptacle connector.

1 21. (new) The electrical connection arrangement according to
2 claim 20, further in combination with said flexible
3 conductor which is selected from the group consisting of
4 flexible electrical wires and flat flexible electrical
5 cables, wherein said flexible conductor is connected to
6 said second connecting part of said plug contact of said
7 plug connector.

1 22. (new) The electrical connection arrangement according to
2 claim 20, wherein

3 each said retaining part comprises a bent metal member
4 having a fixed end that is fixed to said free end of said
5 respective latch arm, a first tab bent from said fixed end
6 inwardly in said width direction to a bent edge toward said
7 opposite one of said retaining parts, and a second tab bent
8 from said bent edge outwardly in said width direction away
9 from said opposite one of said retaining parts and
10 terminating at a free terminal edge,

11 said second tab forms said deflection guide part,

12 said bent edge forms said second retaining face, and

13 a side edge along said first tab, said bent edge and
14 said second tab forms said first retaining face.

1 23. (new) The electrical connection arrangement according to
2 claim 22, wherein said second tab transitioning to said
3 bent edge and forming said deflection guide part slopes or
4 curves about said depth direction relative to said socket
5 plane.

1 24. (new) The electrical connection arrangement according to
2 claim 20, wherein said receptacle body further comprises a
3 metal cover extending along and connected to said
4 insulating receptacle body part, and said latch arms are
5 receptive metal elements protruding integrally from and
6 forming one piece with said metal cover.

1 25. (new) The electrical connection arrangement according to
2 claim 20, wherein said plug body has inverted corner
3 recesses at corners thereof oriented opposite said forward
4 plug end in said depth direction and opposite one another
5 in said width direction, and wherein said inverted corner
6 recesses each respectively are bounded by a first wall
7 forming one of said first engaging faces and a second wall
8 forming one of said second engaging faces.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]